

### STATE OF INDIANA

MICHAEL R. PENCE, Governor

## PUBLIC ACCESS COUNSELOR LUKE H. BRITT

Indiana Government Center South 402 West Washington Street, Room W470 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2745 Telephone: (317)233-9435 Fax: (317)233-3091 1-800-228-6013

www.IN.gov/pac

April 23, 2015

Mr. Fabian S. White #109152 Indiana State Prison One Park Row Michigan City, IN 46360

Re: Formal Complaint 15-FC-99; Alleged Violation of the Access to Public Records Act by the Indiana State Police

Dear Mr. White,

This advisory opinion is in response to your formal complaint alleging the Indiana State Police (ISP) violated the Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"), Ind. Code § 5-14-3-1 *et. seq.* ISP has not responded despite an invitation to do so on March 23, 2015. Pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-5-10, I issue the following opinion to your formal complaint received by the Office of the Public Access Counselor on March 18, 2015.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Your complaint dated March 2, 2015 alleges the Indiana State Police violated the Access to Public Records Act.

You indicate in your complaint you have been requesting a search warrant affidavit from ISP for three (3) years running. You do not, however, supplement your complaint with a recent request to ISP.

#### **ANALYSIS**

The public policy of the APRA states that "(p)roviding persons with information is an essential function of a representative government and an integral part of the routine duties of public officials and employees, whose duty it is to provide the information." See Ind. Code § 5-14-3-1.

Pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-5-7, the time for filing a formal complaint is within 30 days of the denial of the records. You indicate you have been refused the document for three



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years and have not renewed your request recently. Therefore, you do not have standing to file a formal complaint with this Office.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, it is the Opinion of the Public Access Counselor the Indiana State Police has not violated the Access to Public Records Act.

Regards,

Luke H. Britt Public Access Counselor